

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of installing a cable in an inner pathway comprising the steps of:

providing a duct with a collapsible wall to form said inner pathway, said collapsible wall being movable between an extended condition to provide the duct with a first cross-sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said duct with a second cross-sectional area smaller than said first cross-sectional area,

inserting said duct with said collapsible wall in said contracted condition into said outer conduit,

moving said collapsible wall to said extended condition to provide said duct with said first cross-sectional area,

inserting said cable into said duct with said collapsible wall in said extended condition, and

moving said collapsible wall to said contracted condition with said cable extending through said duct within said outer conduit.

2. (currently amended) A method as in claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further providing said duct ~~has in~~ in a tubular shape and in a generally first oval or circular cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the extended condition and providing a

flattened tubular shape and a generally second oval cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the contracted condition.

3. (currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein said duct ~~has~~ is provided with a longitudinal axis and a closed duct wall extending about said axis, and said collapsible wall ~~forms~~ is provided with a major circumferential portion of said duct wall.

4. (original) A method as in claim 3, wherein said collapsible wall forms substantially all of said closed duct wall.

5. (original) A method as in claim 1, including the step of providing a plurality of said pathways respectively formed by a plurality of said ducts.

6. (currently amended) A method as in claim 5, ~~wherein~~ which further includes securing said plurality of ducts ~~are secured~~ together along their longitudinal lengths to form a duct assembly, and inserting said duct assembly with said collapsible walls in said contracted condition ~~is inserted~~ into an outer conduit.

7. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, including the step of pressurizing said duct before said cable is inserted and then depressuring said duct.

8. (currently amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein said duct is provided with said collapsible wall ~~has~~ which is provided with a multiple layer construction including an outer protective layer, an inner liner layer for engaging said cable, a reinforcing layer extending between said outer layer and liner layer for increasing the hoop strength of said duct.

9. (currently amended) A method as in claim 8, ~~wherein~~ which further includes providing said inner liner layer ~~has~~ with a profiled surface to decrease frictional resistance as said cable is inserted in said duct.

10. (currently amended) A method as in claim 9, ~~wherein~~ which further includes providing said profiled surface ~~includes~~ with one of longitudinal ribs, oscillating ribs or spiral ribs.

11. (currently amended) A method as in claim 8, ~~wherein~~ which further includes providing said outer protective layer ~~has~~ with longitudinal and circumferential grooves.

12. (original) A method of installing a cable in an inner pathway extending within an outer conduit comprising the steps of
providing duct means including collapsible wall means to form said inner pathway, said collapsible wall means being movable between an extended condition

to provide said duct means with a first cross-sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said duct means with a second cross-sectional area smaller than said first cross-sectional area,

inserting said duct means with said collapsible wall means in said contracted condition into said outer conduit,

moving said collapsible wall means to said extended condition to provide said duct means with said first cross-sectional area,

inserting said cable into said duct means with said collapsible wall means in said extended condition, and

moving said collapsible wall means to said contracted condition with said cable extending through said duct means within said outer conduit.

13. (currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 12, ~~wherein~~ which further includes providing said duct means ~~comprise with~~ comprise with a plurality of ducts having tubular shapes and securing said ducts ~~secured~~ together along their longitudinal axes, and further providing said collapsible wall means ~~includes~~ including a plurality of collapsible walls, one of said collapsible walls being associated with each of said ducts.

14. (currently amended) A method as in claim 13, ~~wherein~~ further providing at least one of said ducts ~~has in~~ is in a tubular shape and a generally oval or circular cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the extended condition and

providing a flattened tubular shape and a generally oval cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the contracted condition.

15. (currently amended) A method as in claim 13, ~~wherein said~~ further providing at least one duct has a longitudinal axis and a closed duct wall extending about said axis, and providing said collapsible wall forms a major circumferential portion of said duct wall.

16. (currently amended) A method as in claim 15, ~~wherein~~ further providing said collapsible wall forms substantially all of said closed duct wall.

17. (currently amended) A method as in claim 13, ~~wherein~~ further providing said collapsible wall ~~has~~ with a multiple layer construction including an outer protective layer, an inner liner layer for engaging said cable, a reinforcing layer extending between said outer layer and liner layer for increasing the hoop strength of said duct.

18. (currently amended) A method as in claim 17, ~~wherein~~ further providing said liner layer ~~has~~ with a profiled surface to decrease frictional resistance as said cable is inserted in said duct.

19. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, ~~wherein~~ further

providing said profiled surface ~~includes~~ with one of longitudinal ribs, oscillating ribs or spiral ribs.

20. (currently amended) A method as in claim 17, ~~wherein further~~ providing said outer protective layer ~~has~~ with longitudinal and circumferential grooves.

21. (original) A method as in claim 13, wherein the step of inserting said duct means into said outer conduit includes one of pulling or pushing said ducts through said outer conduit in a staggered group or in a plurality of sequential groups.

22. (currently amended) A method as claim 12, ~~wherein further~~ providing said outer conduit ~~is~~ as a utility service line.

23. (original) A method as in claim 22, further including the steps of providing an adjustable opening in said service line for receiving said duct means, adjusting said opening to a clearance position for receiving said duct means with sufficient clearance to insert said duct means into said service line and to insert said cable into said duct means when the duct means is in said extended condition, and, after said step of moving said collapsible wall means to said contracted condition, adjusting said adjustable opening to a sealing position for engaging said duct

means in a fluid tight seal with said wall means in said contracted condition.

24. (original) A method as in claim 23, further including the steps of providing said first mentioned adjustable opening in said service line at an entrance location for said duct means, providing a second adjustable opening in said service line at an exit location for said duct means, said second adjustable opening also being operable between clearance and sealing positions, extending said duct means and cable through said service line and said second adjustable opening in said clearance position, and adjusting said first and second openings to said sealing positions for engaging said duct means with said wall means in said contracted condition in fluid tight seals and thereby sealing said service line.

25. (withdrawn) A conduit having a longitudinally extending duct means providing an inner pathway for receiving a cable, said duct means including collapsible wall means extending longitudinally within said conduit, said collapsible wall means being movable between an extended condition to provide said duct means with a first cross sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said duct means with a second cross-sectional area smaller than said first cross-sectional area.

26. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 25, wherein said duct means has a longitudinal axis and said collapsible wall means includes a closed duct wall

extending about said axis, and said duct wall includes a collapsible wall forming a major circumferential portion of said duct wall.

27. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 26, wherein said collapsible wall forms substantially all of said closed duct wall.

28. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 25, wherein said duct means includes a plurality of ducts forming a plurality of said inner pathways.

29. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 28, wherein said plurality of ducts are secured together along their longitudinal lengths to form a duct assembly, said duct assembly extending in said conduit with said collapsible walls in said contracted condition.

30. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 26, wherein said collapsible wall has a multiple layer construction including an outer protective layer, an inner liner layer for engaging said cable, a reinforcing layer extending between said outer layer and liner layer for increasing the hoop strength of said collapsible wall.

31. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 30, wherein said liner layer has a profiled surface to decrease frictional resistance as said cable is inserted in said duct means.

32. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 31, wherein said profiled surface includes longitudinal ribs, oscillating ribs or spiral ribs.

33. (withdrawn) A conduit as claim 25, wherein said conduit is a pipeline.

34. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 33, wherein said pipeline includes a wall having an inlet opening for receiving said duct means, clamp means mounted to said pipeline and having an adjustable opening communicating with said inlet opening for receiving and introducing said duct means into said pipeline, said adjustable opening being operable between a clearance position and a sealing position, said adjustable opening in said clearance position receiving said duct means with sufficient clearance to insert said duct means into said service line and to insert said cable into said duct means when said wall means is in said extended condition, said adjustable opening in said sealing position engaging said duct means with said wall means in said contracted condition in a fluid tight seal and sealing said inlet opening with said duct means and cable extending there through into said pipeline.

35. (withdrawn) A conduit as in claim 34, wherein said inlet opening is located at an entrance location for said duct means in said pipeline, said pipeline has an outlet opening extending through said pipeline wall at an exit location for said duct means in said pipeline, a second clamp means is mounted to said pipeline

at said exit location with a second adjustable opening communicating with said outlet opening, said second adjustable opening also being operable between a clearance position and a sealing position, said duct means and cable extending into said pipeline through said first adjustable opening at said entrance location, through said pipeline to said exit location and exiting from said pipeline through said second adjustable opening at said exit location, whereby said adjustable openings in said sealing positions engage said duct means with said wall means in said contracted condition in fluid tight seals and thereby seal said service line.

36. (withdrawn) A conduit as claim 35, wherein said pipeline is a utility service line.

37. (withdrawn) A duct for providing an inner pathway for receiving a cable, said duct having a longitudinal axis and a closed duct wall extending about said axis, said duct wall including a collapsible wall portion movable between an extended condition to provide said duct with a first cross-sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said duct with a second cross-sectional area smaller than said first cross-sectional area, said collapsible wall having a multiple layer construction including an outer protective layer, an inner liner layer for engaging said cable, a reinforcing layer extending between said outer layer and liner layer for increasing the hoop strength of said collapsible wall.

38. (withdrawn) A duct as set forth in claims 37, wherein said duct has a tubular shape and a generally first oval or circular cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the extended condition and a flattened tubular shape and a generally oval cross-section when said collapsible wall is in the contracted condition.

39. (withdrawn) A duct as in claim 38, wherein said liner layer has a profiled surface to decrease frictional resistance as said cable is inserted in said duct, said profiled surface including longitudinal ribs.

40. (withdrawn) A duct as in claim 38, wherein said profiled surface includes longitudinal ribs, oscillating ribs or spiral ribs.

41. (withdrawn) A plurality of ducts for providing inner pathways for receiving a plurality of cables, said ducts having a longitudinal axis and a duct wall extending about said axis, said duct walls including a collapsible wall portion movable between an extended condition to provide said ducts with a first cross-sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said ducts with a second cross-sectional area, said second cross-sectional area being smaller than said first cross-sectional areas, said ducts being connected longitudinally along their exteriors to reduce relative movement between the ducts.

42. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 41, wherein the ducts have exterior ribs to reduce friction as they are placed in a conduit.

43. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 41, wherein the ducts have interior ribs to reduce friction as cables are pulled into the ducts.

44. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 43, wherein the ribs are longitudinal.

45. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 43, wherein the ribs move in one direction then another.

46. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 41, which further includes a strand of material attached along the length of said ducts by which they may be suspended.

47. (withdrawn) The plurality of ducts of claim 46, wherein the strand of material are enclosed in an outer layer that also encloses the conduit.

48. (original) A method of installing a cable in an inner pathway extending within a utility service line comprising the steps of:
providing a duct including a collapsible wall to form said inner pathway, said

collapsible wall being movable between an extended condition to provide said duct with a first cross-sectional area and a contracted condition to provide said duct with a second crosssectional area smaller than said first cross-sectional area,

providing an adjustable opening in said service line for receiving said duct, adjusting said opening to a clearance position for receiving said duct with sufficient clearance to insert said duct into said service line and to insert said cable into said duct when the duct is in said extended condition,

mounting said duct in said service line by inserting said duct through said adjustable opening into said service line, moving said collapsible wall to said extended condition and inserting said cable into said duct, moving said collapsible wall to said contracted condition, and adjusting said opening to a sealing position for engaging said duct in a fluid tight seal with said wall in said contracted condition.

49. (original) A method as in claim 48, further including the steps of providing said first mentioned adjustable opening in said service line at an entrance location for said duct, providing a second adjustable opening in said service line at an exit location for said duct, said second adjustable opening also being operable between clearance and sealing positions, extending said duct and cable through said service line and said second adjustable opening in said clearance position, and adjusting said first and second openings to said sealing positions for engaging said duct with said wall in said contracted condition in fluid tight seals and thereby sealing said service line.